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RAPID SEARCH PROCESSOR DEVELOPMENT

ACTION COMPONENT(S):

An/ORD

USER COMPONENT(S):

DD/P, DD/I

OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this program are to develop and bring into use to the fullest extent, compatible with considerations of cost effectiveness, a rapid search processor unit capable of being used directly by an intelligence analyst. This technology is at present exemplified by one operating prototype machine called the RSM (Rapid Search Machine). It is expected that this machine will prove its ability to let users easily, rapidly and cheaply search and retrieve from very large text data bases. If these expectations are realized, it will be the objective of this program to exploit this capability fully by developing uses of the rapid search principle in areas other than its present application, e.g., a stand-alone text searching unit.

DESCRIPTION:

While the stand-alone text searching capability demonstrated in the existing model appears to be highly useful and applicable to many present problems of information retrieval in the Agency, there are other, more complex problems in which the one-level, word retrieval mode of search may prove inadequate. In these situations it will probably develop that the rapid search technology can be applied to the construction of devices to serve as peripheral devices to computers which perform more intricate analyses of natural language, the salient portions of which are retrieved by the rapid search device. In such a configuration the computer is relieved of the tedious character-by-character matching functions which general purpose machines do inefficiently. In this way the computer is freed to perform those tasks, such as syntactic or semantic analysis, which at the present can only be done by a computer.

Other possible uses of the rapid search technology lie in the

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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areas of dissemination, spotting priority indicators in high volume intelligence input channels, providing a tool for community-wide querying of files in varying format.

CHRONOLOGY:

Initiated: FY-67
Operational: FY-68
Operational Evaluation: FY-68 and ff.

25X1

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